

Public Issues Report 3rd Quarter 2008

Public File 2008 – 3rd Quarter

News at

6:01am	7:01	8:01
6:15	7:15	8:15
6:31	7:31	8:31
6:45	7:45	8:45

July 1

Anheuser-Busch says no to In-Bev's 46 billion dollar offer for the company.

Starting today, New York city's food industry, including food carts have three months to dump all trans fat.

July 2

The man accused of killing eight people in two states was smoking a cigarette outside a bar when cops nabbed him.

In a recent online poll, 37 percent of parents say they are more concerned with a man and woman having sex in a video game, than any other aspect.

July 3

The C-D-C says there were 23 million overweight or obese kids in the u-s between two and 19 years old from 2003 to 2006.

American Airlines says it could cut up to seven thousand jobs by the end of this year because of high fuel costs.

July 4

This Fourth of July U.S. troops in Iraq are still fighting for that country's independence, but the men running for president are fighting over when to bring them home.

For the third time since 2002, the Williams sisters will meet in the Wimbledon finals.

July 7

Doctors at the American academy of pediatrics now say kids as young as 8 should take cholesterol drugs to fight off future heart disease.

Three-point-five billion...n-b-c universal just paid 3 point 5 billion for the weather channel.

July 8

Economists say we haven't seen a big enough decline in two consecutive quarters to declare an official recession.

There are more than 450 job cuts are on the way for airline workers in Colorado.

July 9

Researchers found that men between 55 to 75 who are getting' busy on a regular basis reduce their chances of developing erectile dysfunction.

The top dogs of the eight industrialized nations say they supported long-term and midterm goals for reducing greenhouse-gas.

July 10

New Orleans population has jumped 13 point 8 percent between July of 2006 and July of 2007.

President Bush says he will sign a bill that gives the feds the right eavesdrop on you without a warrant and it gives telecom companies immunity from lawsuit if they help the feds.

July 11

Today is the last day the I.R.S. is sending out those stimulus rebate checks.

AT&T and AOL are both deleting newsgroups with child porn, and clearing out child porn websites from their servers.

July 14

Out of the two-thousand Americans surveyed in a new USA Today-Gallup poll one third believe race relations will get worse if Barack Obama loses the election.

One Boston church has found a new way to drive up attendance, giving away 50 dollar gas cards.

July 15,

44 percent of people polled by USA today say the best way for teens to stay safe behind the wheel is to stop text messaging!

The consumer federation of America says women are 32 percent more likely than men to get sub-prime mortgages, even though they have similar credit scores.

July 16,

If the Democrats on Capitol Hill get their way, we may all see another check in the mail to help out with these crazy high gas prices and other things.

A new study in the Journal of the American Medical Association says that less than one third of 15 year olds get the minimum amount of recommended exercise.

July 17

A new study from Harvard University says that Phillip Morris developed "Marlboro Milds" in 2000 to attract younger smokers.

The American public transportation association says that during the first three months of this year Americans took 85-million "more" trips on public transport compared with the same three month period last year.

July 18

For the fourth year in a row, Mississippi has the highest percentage of overweight adults, at 32 percent.

Travel experts say the airlines are trying to charge higher prices for their left over seats to cover the price of record jet fuel prices.

July 21

10 percent of the economists who took a survey from the National Association for Business Economics think the economy could actually get worse during the second half of the year, because of high energy prices, the housing fallout, and credit debacles.

A new study says newspapers need to find a way to make money off the internet, or they won't be able to stay competitive.

July 22

Investigators found a jalapeño pepper tainted with salmonella at a supplier in McAllen, Texas yesterday.

The social security administration has come up with a new online calculator that will tell you how much cash you can expect to earn.

July 23

Los Angeles city council just passed the plastic ban. Meaning shoppers will either have to bring their own bags or pay 25 cents for a paper or biodegradable bag.

The FAA has offered a \$100,000 bonus to new air-traffic controllers to lure them to the New York area's five understaffed radar centers.

July 24

One point eight million people in New York State had to use food stamps in April to keep their children fed. That's thirty-thousand more than in 2006, and more than a half-million since 2001. Experts say it's just another symptom of the tough economy.

Millions of hourly workers, making minimum wage will get a raise today.

It goes up 70 cents an hour, from 5.85 to 6.55 per hour.

It's the second of three annual increases from a law passed last year.

July 25

Congress wants to bump up its global AIDs relief, to the tune of 48 billion dollars. The house approved a bill to triple its spending over the next five years to fight AIDs, Malaria and Tuberculosis. The bill is in President Bush's hands now. Bush won praise around the world for proposing the existing program.

Presidential hopeful Barack Obama will spend the day in Paris after getting much love from the Germans. Two hundred-thousand people packed a park in Berlin to hear him speak.

July 28

The longest presidential election season in American history is about to enter its final stretch... the last 100 days. November fourth is Election Day, but both candidates still have one very important thing to do by then... pick their running mates. The latest gallup poll shows Barack Obama leading John McCain, 49 to 40 percent.

Researchers from the university of Kansas medical center are connecting fitness with Alzheimer's. They say patients in the early stages of Alzheimer's who performed better on a treadmill test, had less shrinkage in the part of the brain where Alzheimer's strikes. Previous

studies have shown that exercise and physical fitness tend to slow down age-related brain cell death in healthy older adults.

July 29

An out-of-control wildfire is still burning near Yosemite national park in California. So far it's destroyed 12 homes and 27 other buildings. About two-thousand homes are still in its path. Officials say someone target shooting started the wildfire that has quickly grown to more than 18-thousand acres.

It's been six days since a major oil spill on the Mississippi river in New Orleans. And the river is expected to re-open "today." Ship traffic came to a halt after a barge and tanker collided. Officials say wildlife is o-k since the oil didn't spill into swamps or marshes. They're shooting off cannons to keep birds away.

July 30

The feds say diabetic women who get pregnant are three to four times more likely to have a child with birth defects than other women.

Starting in the fall, San Francisco city officials voted to stop pharmacies from selling tobacco products. Drug stores caught selling tobacco products in the city will be fined up to a thousand dollars.

July 31

Congressman Barney Frank is introducing a bill that would do away with penalties for possession of up to 100 grams of pot.

Officials warn of a new bacteria lurking in public pools... And chlorine is no match for his one!

A USA today survey shows women dominate other jobs too with 77 percent being travel agents.

August 1

A new study from Hormel foods says 51% of most Americans they spend no more than an hour everyday cooking.

State lawmakers struck down a law from 19-13 prohibiting couples from crossing state lines to get hitched. Now gay couples from all over the country can say "I DO" in Massachusetts.

They say the drug "Aicar" could help you gain some of the benefits of exercise without working up a sweat. Researchers studied mice that took the drug for four weeks and found they burned more calories and had less fat than the other mice.

August 4

The "Government Accountability Office" set up two sham medical supply companies, with no clients or medical patients... to test the feds ability to catch them. They provided sketchy info and false documents, but were still approved! The agency says it's updating its standards and will start cracking down.

The Feds are speaking out about the army scientist they say pulled off the worst bioterrorist attack in U.S. history.

August 5

Those so called financial experts say despite rising unemployment and foreclosures... Central bank policy peeps probably won't drop rates. The reason...the economy is too weak!

Most airlines say they will be willing to waive rescheduling fees under certain conditions but you have to reschedule your flight to fly no later than August 13th.

August 6

Forbes magazine reports that Dayton is the fast-dying city in America with more than 33 thousand people moving out since 2000.

The government plans to auction off a prized take-off and landing slot at Newark Liberty International Airport next month.

August 7

FBI agents say the hospitals turned in phony Medicare and medical bills for hundreds... possible thousands...of homeless patients who they recruited from skid row in Downtown L-A.

The new website 'who can I sue dot com' will help people figure out whether they actually have a case and help them find an attorney from a list of lawyers who advertise on the site!

August 8

A new poll from Harris Interactive, shows that 50% of adults say they have or will have gone on vacation this year.

Austin, Texas and Boston had the most high-risk food safety violations, like contaminated counters and workers not washing their hands. Tucson, Arizona had the fewest.

August 11

Small car sales are up more than 10% from last year and could hit three million by the end of the year...which shows how concerned we are about the cost of gas.

Whole Foods announced a voluntary recall of fresh ground beef it sold between June 2nd & August 6th. It says the meat "could" be contaminated with E. Coli Bacteria.

August 12

Gas prices have dropped everyday for the last 25 days all because oil prices are at their lowest in three months, selling for \$113 a barrel.

A new study in today's "Archives of Internal Medicine" shows that about 50% of all overweight people in the U.S. are actually perfectly healthy.

The C-D-C says it's working on a study that will determine whether or not there is a pattern that links Gardasil to the alarming number of serious adverse reactions and even deaths.

August 13

Researchers looked at thousands of Military Medical Records and found those deployed to a combat area had a 31% increase of becoming alcoholics and younger soldiers were more at risk than their older fellow soldiers.

Scientists say women who take birth control pills seem lose their sniffing abilities and become more likely to choose the wrong type of man!

August 14

White people will no longer make up the majority of Americans by the year 2042. The census bureau says the numbers are based on rates for births, deaths and immigration, particularly with the Hispanic population.

Teens are finding easy access to prescription meds and they say it's easier to get their hands on the pills than it is a six pack of beer!

Dutch researchers say the 60 year study found happiness could keep you alive up to 10 years longer.

August 15

The Federal Trade Commission says Airborne can't back up its claim that its product can treat a cold or protect against germs.

58% of air passengers think planes should have a separate section for parents with babies.

Federal regulators say American Airlines kept flying two jetliners dozens of times...even "after" pilots reported problems with the auto pilot systems.

August 18

You may think everybody gets their news from the net nowadays... But a new survey says 46% of people still get their news from T-V.

A new poll from Pew Research says 56% of voters say there should be a third major political party.

August 19

57% in a random survey said God's divine intervention could save a family member "even" if doctors said the patient was going to die.

The F-D-A claims it was surprised by the salmonella outbreak... Saying Mexican peppers hadn't been a problem in the past.

August 20

The Feds say there appears to be a link between low-level arsenic exposure from drinking water, and Type 2 Diabetes.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety gave top scores to the 2008 Mitsubishi Outlander, Nissan Rogue, and the 2009 Ford Escape and the Volkswagen SUV in front-end, side, and rear crash tests.

August 21

Food prices are forecast to rise between five and six percent this year, making it the largest increase since 1990.

For the first time in 12 years, Harvard has claimed the top spot on "U.S. News and World Report's" annual college rankings list.

The Hallmark Company is rolling out same sex weddings cards, with two tuxedos, or overlapping hearts on the front with best wishes inside.

August 25

The Nestle Company says it received several complaints from customers saying they found "foreign material" in their pepperoni pizza pockets!

The 2009 Farmers' Almanac is trying to predict the weather and claims it can accurately predict the weather conditions 80 to 85 percent of the time.

August 26

The National Association of Realtors says the median home sale price dropped more than \$16,000 in the past year and even with the jump in sales, the average home is sitting on the market about 11 months.

New research suggests deadly car accidents are being "driven down" by high gas prices!

August 27

Marijuana drug kit tests are now available at Walgreens drug stores.

A TV commercial says people who eat hot dogs and other processed meats are at a higher risk of getting colon cancer.

August 28

With payrolls on the decline, American workers' confidence in the job market is suffering...to levels not seen since the 2001 recession.

A new poll shows that 54-percent of likely voters do "not" want to ban gay marriage... even though they may not like it.

August 29

Many Americans will be hitting the roads for the Labor Day weekend. AAA is predicting more than 34-million people will travel 50 or more miles from home.

An Iowa man created an alarm using motion sensors already built into most laptops!

The public men's room at the hermitage hotel in Nashville was voted the best restroom in the U.S.

September 1

Only 41% of American adults say they are better off now than they were five years ago. A Pew Research Center and Gallup poll says it's the lowest number of people who say they're living the good life.

September 2

Millions of poor children in the U.S may be getting fat before they turn 10.

Even though Hurricane Gustav took a direct hit on the Gulf of Mexico & temporarily stopped all oil production, gasoline prices still went down.

September 3

Women who smoke have heart attacks... 12 years sooner than women who don't smoke.
And male smokers have heart attacks about six years earlier than men who don't smoke.

September 4

20% of young adults admitted in a new survey from the "Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration" that they took some sort of illegal drug within the last month.

Cocaine and Meth use actually went down but drug use among baby boomers ages 50 to 59 actually went up.

Hurricane Gustav created the largest hurricane evacuation in Louisiana history with 2 million

September 5

Sony recalls four series of its VAIO laptop computers for overheating.

OPEC oil cartel is considering cutting back on production to raise oil prices.

JetBlue auctions off more than 300 roundtrip flights and six vacation packages this week on eBay.

September 9

The Justice Department is sending election monitors to the polls.

Partnership for a Secure America says the weapons of mass destruction still pose the greatest threat yet the country hasn't done much to minimize the risk.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety wants states to raise the minimum age to get a driver's license from 16 to 17 or 18.

September 10

A group of researchers in Geneva, Switzerland are trying to figure out how the universe got started by smashing protons together in a 17-mile tube called a "race track" to analyze the sub-atomic debris that's left over.

At least 22 countries around the world are rooting for Barack Obama to win in November. The B-B-C poll also shows 17 of those countries believe relations between the u-s and the rest of the world will improve if Obama is the next president.

One artist says she's been collecting all that stuff goes after the TSA takes it away from you in the airport security lines and puts them to good use...by making sculptures out of them!

The Centers for Disease Control says more than 143 million doses of the flu vaccine will be available this year and they'll probably be in stock this month.

September 11

A new homeland security report says FEMA wasted millions on no-bid contracts during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

School officials in Washington state say no hot food for you because they're trying to get back the 200-thousand dollars total some students owe on their lunch account.

The women are blaming their cheating ways on the credit crisis. A new study seems to be backing them up saying couples are more likely to separate or divorce if one of them gets booted from his or her job.

September 12

46 million Americans could have been drinking dirty drug-filled tap water.

The Chinese government says 700 tons of baby formula caused kidney problems and kidney stones for about 50 babies in china. They think the formula contains melamine, which was the same poison from china that killed thousands of dogs and cats in the U.S. last year.

September 15

A new report says 4th and 8th graders increased test scores last school year by 8 percent compared to the 2000 school year.

Wall Street got the shock of its life Friday after two well known firms Lehman Brothers and Merrill Lynch found themselves in the red. Things were so bad Lehman Brothers had to file for bankruptcy protection.

September 16

The Dow lost more than 500 points which means about 700 billion dollars evaporated from retirement plans, pensions and other investments.

British researchers say the average car has 283 different types of bacteria per square inch.

September 17

A chemical called B-P-A... that's short for "bisphenol-a." found in water bottles, food containers, and some plastic baby bottles, may be linked to heart disease, diabetes, and even liver problems.

A new survey reveals more than 90% of employers saw positive changes when workers brought their dogs to work.

More than 30-thousand people are packed in to about 300 shelters in the lone star state after Hurricane Ike and about 4 million who are "home" are still without power!

September 18

There's word Washington Mutual has put itself up for sale, and hired Goldman Sachs to advise it.

IV drip... meant to replenish malnourished recovering alcoholics or help patients in medical emergencies.

September 19

The Bush Administration wants Congress to open the checkbook so it can bail out companies and banks caught up in the credit crunch.

Plenty of Americans clip coupons, but it turns out only 2% of Americans use them.

After an in-flight tuberculosis scare in May 2007, public health officials have decided to make sure people with contagious diseases don't hitch a ride on commercial flights!

September 22

A new AP Yahoo news poll says about a third of white democrats and 40% of all Americans have negative views about blacks.

Kids are doing a lot better in math but that's not the case for eighth graders taking algebra.

September 23

Sarah Palin is now saying she *will* cooperate with officials in their investigation of the "Troopergate" matter which centers around whether or not Palin abused her power when she fired a state trooper who went through a rough divorce with Palin's sister.

President Bush will deliver his last address to the UN today when he will attempt to convince them that the U.S economy will be "OK".

September 24

After months of pressure from Republicans, house Democrats have decided to allow the ban on offshore drilling to expire next week.

President Bush cut his UN trip short because of the economic crisis. He vowed to get the bailout approved despite the protests of many lawmakers (including some Republicans).

September 25

A new study by Medco Health Solutions shows that senior citizens are shying away from generic drugs (when the government is paying) even though many of them are almost identical to the prescription version.

A Washington insider says Freddie Mac paid \$15,000 a month to the lobbying firm of John McCain's campaign manager.

September 26

Sarah Palin has decided to donate almost \$1,000-given to her by politicians involved in a corruption scandal- to charity.

J-P Morgan Chase is taking over Washington Mutual.

September 29

New poll in the UK stated that majorities in 22 of the 23 countries that were surveyed agree the War on Terror has not weakened al Qaeda.

With the death of Paul Newman on Friday, stars recognized him over the weekend with many of them referring to him as the "King of Cool". Paul Newman was 83 when he died of lung Cancer.

September 30

Rescue workers in the wake of Hurricane Ike discovered 3 more bodies today, bringing the death toll for the hurricane to "67" in the nation.

NASA's "Phoenix" spacecraft has taken pictures of snow.